

## Merriwether Middle

430 Murrah Road  
North Augusta, South Carolina 29861

**Grades** 6-8 Middle School

**Enrollment** 414 Students

**Principal** Gaye Holmes 803-279-2511

**Superintendent** Dr. Sharon Keesley 803-275-4601

**Board Chair** Sallie B. Cooks 803-663-6539

# THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA 2006 ANNUAL SCHOOL REPORT CARD

## ABSOLUTE RATING

AVERAGE

Absolute Ratings of Middle Schools with Students like Ours

Excellent	Good	Average	Below Average	Unsatisfactory
0	6	24	9	0

## IMPROVEMENT RATING

GOOD

The school's Improvement rating was raised one level because of substantial improvement in the achievement of students belonging to historically underachieving groups of students.

## ADEQUATE YEARLY PROGRESS

NO

This school met 17 out of 19 objectives. The objectives included performance and participation of students in various groups.

Definition: As required by the United States Department of Education, Adequate Yearly Progress specifies that the statewide target is met for All Students and for the following subgroups: Racial/Ethnic, Subsidized Meals, Disability, and Limited English Proficiency.

## SOUTH CAROLINA PERFORMANCE GOAL

By 2010, South Carolina's student achievement will be ranked in the top half of the states nationally. To achieve this goal, we must become one of the fastest improving systems in the country.

**PERFORMANCE TRENDS OVER 4-YEAR PERIOD**

	<b>Absolute Rating</b>	<b>Improvement Rating</b>	<b>Adequate Yearly Progress</b>
<b>2003</b>	Good	Below Average	No
<b>2004</b>	Good	Good	Yes
<b>2005</b>	Good	Below Average	No
<b>2006</b>	Average	Good	No

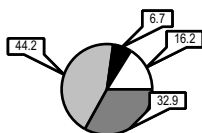
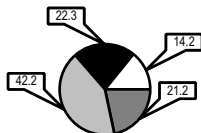
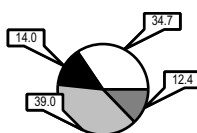
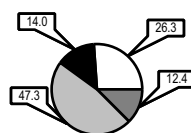
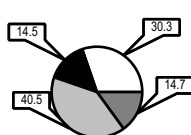
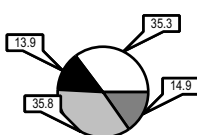
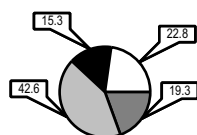
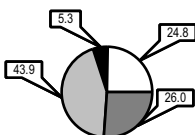
**DEFINITIONS OF SCHOOL RATING TERMS**

- Excellent – School performance substantially exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal
- Good – School performance exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal
- Average – School performance meets the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal
- Below Average – School is in jeopardy of not meeting the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal
- Unsatisfactory – School performance fails to meet the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal

**PERCENT OF STUDENT PACT RECORDS MATCHED FOR PURPOSES OF COMPUTING IMPROVEMENT RATING**

Percent of students tested in 2005–06 whose 2004–05 test scores were located.

92.2%

**PALMETTO ACHIEVEMENT CHALLENGE TESTS (PACT)****English/Language Arts****Mathematics****Science****Social Studies****Middle Schools with Students like Ours****Definition of Critical Terms**

	<b>Advanced</b>	Very high score; very well prepared to work at next grade level; exceeded expectations
	<b>Proficient</b>	Well prepared to work at next grade level; met expectations
	<b>Basic</b>	Met standards; minimally prepared, can go to next grade level
	<b>Below Basic</b>	Did not meet standards; must have an academic assistance plan; the local board policy determines progress to the next grade level

**END OF COURSE TESTS**

Percent of students scoring 70 or above on:

	<b>Our School</b>	<b>Middle Schools with Students Like Ours</b>
<b>Algebra 1/Math for the Technologies 2</b>	100.0	98.5
<b>English 1</b>	100.0	92.9
<b>Biology 1/Applied Biology 2</b>	N/A	76.9
<b>Physical Science</b>	N/A	24.6
<b>All Subjects</b>	100.0	96.3

**Abbreviations for Missing Data**

N/A Not Applicable    N/AV Not Available    N/C Not Collected    N/R Not Reported    I/S Insufficient Sample

**PACT PERFORMANCE BY GROUP**

	<i>Enrollment 1<sup>st</sup> Day of Testing</i>	<i>% Tested</i>	<i>% Below Basic</i>	<i>% Basic</i>	<i>% Proficient</i>	<i>% Advanced</i>	<i>% Proficient and Advanced (adj.)</i>	<i>Performance Objective Met</i>	<i>Participation Objective Met</i>
<b>English/Language Arts – State Performance Objective = 38.2%</b>									
All Students	386	97.7	15.7	43.9	33.4	6.9	51.7	Yes	Yes
<b>Gender</b>									
Male	184	96.2	24.0	45.6	27.5	2.9	39.2	N/A	N/A
Female	202	99.0	8.4	42.4	38.7	10.5	62.8	N/A	N/A
<b>Racial/Ethnic Group</b>									
White	292	98.3	14.2	42.0	36.1	7.7	55.8	Yes	Yes
African American	84	96.4	18.8	51.3	27.5	2.5	37.5	Yes	Yes
Asian/Pacific Islander	1	100.0	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S
Hispanic	7	85.7	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S
American Indian/Alaskan	2	100.0	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S
<b>Disability Status</b>									
Not Disabled	336	100.0	13.4	42.9	36.0	7.8	55.9	N/A	N/A
Disabled	50	82.0	35.0	52.5	12.5	0.0	17.5	I/S	No
<b>Migrant Status</b>									
Migrant	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Non-Migrant	386	97.7	15.7	43.9	33.4	6.9	51.7	N/A	N/A
<b>English Proficiency</b>									
Limited English Proficient	5	100.0	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S
Non-Limited English Proficient	381	97.6	15.1	44.1	33.8	7.0	52.0	N/A	N/A
<b>Socio-Economic Status</b>									
Subsidized meals	141	95.7	22.5	46.5	27.1	3.9	43.4	Yes	Yes
Full-pay meals	245	98.8	12.0	42.5	36.9	8.6	56.2	N/A	N/A

<b>Mathematics – State Performance Objective = 36.7%</b>									
All Students	386	95.3	12.5	42.5	21.8	23.2	59.5	Yes	Yes
<b>Gender</b>									
Male	184	93.5	16.9	37.3	25.9	19.9	59.6	N/A	N/A
Female	202	97.0	8.6	47.1	18.2	26.2	59.4	N/A	N/A
<b>Racial/Ethnic Group</b>									
White	292	96.9	10.4	41.9	21.5	26.3	63.7	Yes	Yes
African American	84	90.5	17.3	49.3	21.3	12.0	44.0	Yes	Yes
Asian/Pacific Islander	1	100.0	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S
Hispanic	7	85.7	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S
American Indian/Alaskan	2	100.0	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S
<b>Disability Status</b>									
Not Disabled	336	100.0	10.6	41.6	23.0	24.8	62.7	N/A	N/A
Disabled	50	64.0	32.3	51.6	9.7	6.5	25.8	I/S	No
<b>Migrant Status</b>									
Migrant	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Non-Migrant	386	95.3	12.5	42.5	21.8	23.2	59.5	N/A	N/A
<b>English Proficiency</b>									
Limited English Proficient	5	100.0	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S
Non-Limited English Proficient	381	95.3	11.7	43.0	21.8	23.5	59.9	N/A	N/A
<b>Socio-Economic Status</b>									
Subsidized meals	141	92.9	20.8	42.4	24.0	12.8	48.8	Yes	Yes
Full-pay meals	245	96.7	7.9	42.5	20.6	28.9	65.4	N/A	N/A

**Abbreviations for Missing Data**

**N/A** Not Applicable    **N/AV** Not Available    **N/C** Not Collected    **N/R** Not Reported    **I/S** Insufficient Sample

**PACT PERFORMANCE BY GROUP**

	<i>Enrollment 1<sup>st</sup> Day of Testing</i>	<i>% Tested</i>	<i>% Below Basic</i>	<i>% Basic</i>	<i>% Proficient</i>	<i>% Advanced</i>	<i>% Proficient and Advanced</i>
<b>Science</b>							
All Students	386	99.5	34.5	39.1	12.4	14.0	26.4
<b>Gender</b>							
Male	184	99.5	36.0	39.9	9.0	15.2	24.2
Female	202	99.5	33.2	38.3	15.5	13.0	28.5
<b>Racial/Ethnic Group</b>							
White	292	99.3	28.0	40.9	15.4	15.8	31.2
African American	84	100.0	56.6	33.7	3.6	6.0	9.6
Asian/Pacific Islander	1	100.0	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S
Hispanic	7	100.0	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S
American Indian/Alaskan	2	100.0	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S
<b>Disability Status</b>							
Not Disabled	336	100.0	30.1	40.7	14.0	15.2	29.2
Disabled	50	96.0	63.3	28.6	2.0	6.1	8.2
<b>Migrant Status</b>							
Migrant	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Non-Migrant	386	99.5	34.5	39.1	12.4	14.0	26.4
<b>English Proficiency</b>							
Limited English Proficient	5	100.0	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S
Non-Limited English Proficient	381	99.5	34.3	39.0	12.5	14.2	26.7
<b>Socio-Economic Status</b>							
Subsidized meals	141	99.3	50.4	34.8	10.4	4.4	14.8
Full-pay meals	245	99.6	25.4	41.5	13.6	19.5	33.1

<b>Social Studies</b>							
All Students	386	99.5	26.1	47.4	12.4	14.0	26.4
<b>Gender</b>							
Male	184	99.5	29.2	43.8	10.7	16.3	27.0
Female	202	99.5	23.3	50.8	14.0	11.9	25.9
<b>Racial/Ethnic Group</b>							
White	292	99.3	21.9	48.7	12.2	17.2	29.4
African American	84	100.0	38.6	45.8	10.8	4.8	15.7
Asian/Pacific Islander	1	100.0	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S
Hispanic	7	100.0	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S
American Indian/Alaskan	2	100.0	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S
<b>Disability Status</b>							
Not Disabled	336	100.0	22.0	49.4	13.7	14.9	28.6
Disabled	50	96.0	53.1	34.7	4.1	8.2	12.2
<b>Migrant Status</b>							
Migrant	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Non-Migrant	386	99.5	26.1	47.4	12.4	14.0	26.4
<b>English Proficiency</b>							
Limited English Proficient	5	100.0	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S
Non-Limited English Proficient	381	99.5	25.6	47.7	12.5	14.2	26.7
<b>Socio-Economic Status</b>							
Subsidized meals	141	99.3	39.3	45.9	9.6	5.2	14.8
Full-pay meals	245	99.6	18.6	48.3	14.0	19.1	33.1

**Abbreviations for Missing Data**

**N/A** Not Applicable    **N/AV** Not Available    **N/C** Not Collected    **N/R** Not Reported    **I/S** Insufficient Sample

**PACT PERFORMANCE BY GRADE LEVEL**

	Grade	Enrollment 1 <sup>st</sup> Day of Testing	% Tested	% Below Basic	% Basic	% Proficient	% Advanced	% Proficient and Advanced
<b>English/Language Arts</b>								
2005	3	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	4	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	5	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	6	137	99.3	24.2	38.6	32.6	4.5	37.1
	7	137	99.3	12.2	58.0	26.7	3.1	29.8
	8	120	99.2	12.6	34.5	40.3	12.6	52.9
2006	3	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	4	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	5	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	6	119	95.8	22.1	39.8	28.3	9.7	38.1
	7	129	96.9	9.9	47.1	38.8	4.1	43.0
	8	138	100.0	15.6	44.5	32.8	7.0	39.8
<b>Mathematics</b>								
2005	3	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	4	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	5	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	6	137	99.3	13.6	43.2	28.0	15.2	43.2
	7	137	100.0	14.5	35.9	24.4	25.2	49.6
	8	120	99.2	15.1	47.9	26.1	10.9	37.0
2006	3	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	4	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	5	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	6	119	94.1	12.6	39.6	30.6	17.1	47.7
	7	129	94.6	9.3	40.7	18.6	31.4	50.0
	8	138	97.1	15.3	46.8	16.9	21.0	37.9
<b>Science</b>								
2005	3	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	4	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	5	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	6	137	99.3	40.9	31.8	16.7	10.6	27.3
	7	137	99.3	36.6	32.8	13.7	16.8	30.5
	8	120	99.2	26.9	38.7	17.6	16.8	34.5
2006	3	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	4	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	5	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	6	119	99.2	42.4	31.4	11.9	14.4	26.3
	7	129	99.2	30.4	40.0	13.6	16.0	29.6
	8	138	100.0	31.3	45.3	11.7	11.7	23.4
<b>Social Studies</b>								
2005	3	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	4	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	5	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	6	137	99.3	43.9	40.9	9.1	6.1	15.2
	7	137	99.3	37.4	42.7	16.0	3.8	19.8
	8	120	99.2	13.4	37.8	23.5	25.2	48.7
2006	3	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	4	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	5	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	6	119	99.2	39.8	49.2	7.6	3.4	11.0
	7	129	99.2	28.8	47.2	7.2	16.8	24.0
	8	138	100.0	10.9	46.1	21.9	21.1	43.0

**Abbreviations for Missing Data**

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**SCHOOL PROFILE**

	<b>Our School</b>	<b>Change from Last Year</b>	<b>Middle Schools with Students Like Ours</b>	<b>Median Middle School</b>
<b>Students (n= 414)</b>				
Students enrolled in high school credit courses (grades 7 & 8)	47.2%	Up from 44.2%	20.4%	16.7%
Retention rate	3.7%	Down from 5.6%	2.1%	2.5%
Attendance rate	95.7%	Down from 95.9%	96.2%	96.0%
Students with disabilities other than speech taking PACT (ELA) off grade level	2.3%	Down from 3.6%	1.3%	0.9%
Students with disabilities other than speech taking PACT (Math) off grade level	4.7%	Down from 5.6%	1.5%	1.0%
Eligible for gifted and talented	26.1%	Down from 30.3%	21.6%	15.6%
On academic plans	30.7%	N/AV	34.8%	39.9%
On academic probation	6.9%	N/AV	0.5%	0.7%
With disabilities other than speech	12.7%	Down from 13.9%	12.2%	12.4%
Older than usual for grade	8.2%	Up from 8.0%	3.0%	4.9%
Out-of-school suspensions or expulsions for violent &/or criminal offenses	1.7%	Down from 4.5%	1.0%	0.9%
Annual dropout rate	0.0%	No change	0.0%	0.0%
<b>Teachers (n= 26)</b>				
Teachers with advanced degrees	61.5%	Up from 56.0%	50.0%	52.4%
Continuing contract teachers	N/AV		N/AV	N/AV
Classes not taught by highly qualified teachers	5.1%	N/A	5.6%	9.1%
Teachers with emergency or provisional certificates	0.0%	Down from 4.3%	4.5%	5.6%
Teachers returning from previous year	87.4%	Down from 90.4%	87.6%	84.6%
Teacher attendance rate	93.8%	Up from 92.7%	95.3%	94.8%
Average teacher salary	\$41,246	Up 4.1%	\$42,904	\$42,267
Prof. development days/teacher	8.5 days	Down from 12.0 days	11.9 days	11.9 days
<b>School</b>				
Principal's years at school	7.0	Up from 6.0	5.0	3.0
Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	20.7 to 1	Up from 19.7 to 1	22.9 to 1	21.1 to 1
Prime instructional time	87.9%	Up from 86.9%	89.8%	89.0%
Dollars spent per pupil*	\$5,659	Down 1.2%	\$5,890	\$6,243
Percent of expenditures for teacher salaries*	58.7%	Up from 58.0%	60.4%	59.8%
Percent of expenditures for instruction*	59.7%		65.0%	65.2%
Opportunities in the arts	Excellent	No change	Good	Good
Parents attending conferences	93.2%	Up from 92.4%	97.2%	97.4%
SACS accreditation	Yes	No change	Yes	Yes
Character development	Excellent	No change	Good	Good

\* Prior year audited financial data are reported.

	<b>Our District</b>	<b>State</b>
Classes in low poverty schools not taught by highly qualified teachers	4.0%	6.2%
Classes in high poverty schools not taught by highly qualified teachers	4.6%	10.2%
	<b>State Objective</b>	<b>Met State Objective</b>
Classes not taught by highly qualified teachers in this school	0.0%	No
Student attendance in this school	94.0%*	Yes

\*or greater than last year

**Abbreviations for Missing Data**

N/A Not Applicable   N/AV Not Available   N/C Not Collected   N/R Not Reported   I/S Insufficient Sample

**REPORT OF PRINCIPAL AND SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL**

Merriwether Middle School, located in rural Edgefield County near North Augusta, S. C., serves approximately 400 sixth, seventh, and eighth grade students from various ethnic and economic backgrounds. We are committed to the middle school concept with our students scheduled in teams so that the transition from elementary to high school is made easier and so that teachers can plan for students' success and for integrated units of study. Every student attends five academic classes and two exploratory classes each day. Language arts and reading classes are blocked to allow for correlation of speaking, listening, reading, and writing activities. Math classes have been increased to 90 minutes per day to allow for incorporation of hands-on activities. Exploratory classes include art, chorus, band, physical education, keyboarding, journalism, technology, and reading and math enrichment. The CAI lab affords students an opportunity to practice skills with computer assistance. Each eighth grade student is offered courses for high school credit. Among the high school credit classes are band, keyboarding, English I, and Algebra I. We use MAP and PACT tests, along with other assessments, to assist in data-driven instruction.

MMS's motto is "We can't hide that Mustang pride," and we are proud of our accomplishments. In 2005-06 we received the coveted Silver Award from the state for our PACT scores. Last year we had 17 Junior Scholars and this year 15. These are phenomenal numbers for a school our size. Each year we participate in a number of competitions and have been very successful. Last year we came in third in the regional MathCounts competition. This year we were first in the regional MathCounts and sixth in the state. Our Science EcoMeet team came in first in the region last year and third this year. This year we scored above the national average in all tested areas of the NAEP tests. One of our teachers was chosen by the ASCD as one of 14 Emerging World Leaders. Our Honor Band rated Superior at the Music Festival. Several teachers have received honors and grants this year. We have two National Board Certified teachers, and all of our teachers are working toward Highly Qualified status with the State Department.

Our school is an Accredited School with the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. We have a very active PTO and School Improvement Council. We have been described as one of South Carolina schools' best-kept secrets.

Ms. Angela Hood, SIC Chair

Ms. Virginia W. Culbertson, Principal

**EVALUATIONS BY TEACHERS, STUDENTS, AND PARENTS**

	Teachers	Students*	Parents*
Number of surveys returned	20	126	22
Percent satisfied with learning environment	95.0%	76.6%	81.0%
Percent satisfied with social and physical environment	100.0%	77.6%	66.7%
Percent satisfied with school-home relations	100.0%	80.0%	85.7%

\*Only students at the highest middle school grade level at this school and their parents were included.